

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07 EA-07

FRB-03 INR-07 IO-10 NEA-10 NSAE-00 OPIC-03 SP-02

TRSE-00 CIEP-01 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 ISO-00 SSO-00

INRE-00 AGR-05 /080 W

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TAGS: EGEN, OECD

SUBJECT: HEADS OF DELEGATION DISCUSSION OF OECD ROLE  
IN DIALOGUE

1. SUMMARY: DURING OCTOBER 9 HEADS OF DEL MEETING  
CALLED TO DISCUSS OECD ROLE IN DIALOGUE, SECGEN VAN  
LENNEP CONTINUED TO EXHIBIT FLEXIBLE AND PRACTICAL  
APPROACH TO ORGANIZATIONAL ISSUES WHICH HE HAS EXPRESSED  
TO US IN PRIVATE CONVERSATIONS. HE EMPHASIZED XCSS ROLE  
AS HIGH-LEVEL FORUM FOR EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION AND FOR  
ENSURING THAT APPROPRIATE OECD BODIES ARE PREPARED TO  
BACKSTOP WORK OF THE FOUR COMMISSIONS, BUT SAID HE  
SAW NO NEED AT THIS TIME TO DEAL WITH COORDINATION OF  
OVERALL STRATEGY FOR DIALOGUE TO BE LAUNCHED BY PREPCON  
HE FELT, HOWEVER, THAT XCSS MEETING OCT. 21-22 SHOULD  
UNDERTAKE FIRST DISCUSSION OF COHERENT DC APPROACH TO  
OVERALL PROCESS OF NORTH/SOUTH DISCUSSIONS TAKING PLACE  
IN VARIOUS FORUMS WHICH HAS EMERGED FROM SEVENTH  
SPECIAL SESSION AND OTHER RECENT MEETINGS, INCLUDING  
ROLE OF COMMISSIONS IN THIS GLOBAL PROCESS. HE EMPHA-  
SIZED THAT UPCOMING XCSS SHOULD FOCUS ON SUBSTANTIVE  
DISCUSSION OF BASIC ISSUES RATHER THAN ON PROCEDURAL  
QUESTIONS AND MADE STRONG PITCH FOR STRONGEST POSSIBLE  
REPRESENTATION BY ALL GOVERNMENTS. ANNOTATED AGENDA  
FOR XCSS, ISSUES ON SAME DAY, IS TRANSMITTED BY SEPTEL.  
END SUMMARY.

2. VAN LENNEP BEGAN BY DRAWING DISTINCTION BETWEEN  
OVERALL PROCESS OF NORTH/SOUTH NEGOTIATIONS TAKING PLACE  
IN MANY FORUMS WHICH HAS EMERGED FROM 7TH SPECIAL SESS-  
ION AND OTHER RECENT MEETINGS AND MORE SPECIFIC DIALO-  
GUE WHICH WILL BE LAUNCHED BY PREPCON. HE THOUGHT  
XCSS, IN OCT. 21-22 MEETING AND THEREAFTER, SHOULD HAVE  
MAJOR ROLE IN BOTH OF THESE AREAS. WITH REGARD TO  
FORMER, XCSS SHOULD IDENTIFY THOSE ISSUES WHICH MIGHT  
APPROPRIATELY BE DEALT WITH IN OECD AND KEEP UNDER  
REVIEW GENERAL PROGRESS AND INTERRELATIONSHIPS AMONG  
THE VARIOUS SUBJECTS BEING DISCUSSED. XCSS SHOULD INSU-  
RE THAT HLGS ON COMMODITIES AND RELATIONS WITH LDCS  
ARE PREPARED TO PLAY THEIR ROLE IN BROADER NORTH/  
SOUTH DISCUSSIONS. HE NOTED IN THIS REGARD THAT SECRE-  
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TARIAT WOULD SHORTLY ISSUE FOR XCSS CONSIDERATION  
CATALOGUE OF DISCUSSIONS OF NORTH/SOUTH ISSUES CURRENTLY  
UNDER WAY IN ALL INTERNATIONAL FORUMS.

3. VAN LENNEP WENT ON TO STATE THAT SECOND MAJOR  
ROLE OF XCSS SHOULD BE TO DETERMINE PLACE OF DIALOGUE LA-

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UNCED BY PREPCON IN OVERALL STRUCTURE OF NORTH/SOUTH DISCUSSIONS. UNLIKE DIALOGUE ON ENERGY, DISCUSSIONS OF DEVELOPMENT, COMMODITIES AND FINANCIAL MATTERS WILL TAKE PLACE NOT ONLY IN COMMISSIONS BUT ALSO IN A RANGE OF OTHER INTERNATIONAL FORUMS. UPCOMING XCSS SHOULD HAVE A FIRST DISCUSSION OF FUNCTION OF COMMISSIONS IN THESE OTHER AREAS. CITING "EXTREME" ALTERNATIVES, VAN LENNP THOUGHT OECD MEMBER COUNTRIES SHOULD DECIDE SUCH BASIC QUESTIONS AS WHETHER COMMISSIONS SHOULD MERELY MONITOR DISCUSSIONS TAKING PLACE IN OTHER FORUMS OR WHETHER THEY SHOULD BE ACTIVE, LEAD BODIES IN WHICH REAL NEGOTIATIONS WOULD PRODUCE CONCRETE RESULTS, DETAILED ARRANGEMENTS FOR WHICH MIGHT BE WORKED OUT IN OTHER FORUMS.

4. FINALLY, IN VIEW OF RESTRICTED PARTICIPATION IN DIALOGUE, VAN LENNEP THOUGHT THAT XCSS SHOULD TAKE STEPS TO INSURE THAT ALL MEMBER GOVERNMENTS ARE FULLY INFORMED AND INVOLVED TO GREATEST EXTENT POSSIBLE IN DIALOGUE.

5. VAN LENNEP STATED THAT ROLE OF HEADS OF DEL SHOULD BE TO SUPPLEMENT POLICY DISCUSSIONS TAKING PLACE IN OTHER BODIES BY SERVING AS CHANNEL FOR EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION ON PROGRESS OF DIALOGUE AND DISCUSSING OECD PROCEDURAL AND INSTITUTIONAL QUESTIONS BETWEEN XCSS MEETINGS. NOTING THAT QUESTION OF DC PARTICIPATION IS BEING DISCUSSED THROUGH "DIPLOMATIC" CHANNELS, VAN LENNEP THOUGHT THAT HEADS OF DEL MEETING MIGHT AT SOME STAGE WISH TO "CONCLUDE THAT ISSUE HAS BEEN SATISFACTORILY RESOLVED."

6. VAN LENNEP EMPHASIZED THAT XCSS AND OTHER OECD BODIES SHOULD AVOID DISCUSSION OF SUCH QUESTIONS AS RESPECTIVE ROLES OF IEA AND XCSS ON QUESTIONS OF LINKAGE AND OVERALL STRATEGY WHICH MAY ARISE IN FUTURE AND FOCUS ON REAL AND RELATIVELY URGENT SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES. HE MADE STRONG PITCH FOR ALL MEMBER GOVERNMENTS TO SEND HIGHEST AND MOST BROADLY COMPETENT POSSIBLE REPRESENTATION TO UPCOMING XCSS MEETING SO THAT IT CAN

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FOCUS ON FUNDAMENTAL, SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES RELATED TO

BOTH BROADER NORTH/SOUTH DISCUSSIONS AND TO DIALOGUE RATHER THAN ON PROCEDURAL QUESTIONS PERTAINING TO OVER-ALL COORDINATION WHICH ARE AT THIS STAGE LARGELY HYPOTHETICAL. HE EXPRESSED CONFIDENCE THAT WITH XCSS, HLGS ON COMMODITIES AND RELATIONS WITH LDCS, AND TEMPORARY WORKING PARTY OF EPC (TWP), OECD IS FULLY PREPARED TO PLAY ITS APPROPRIATE ROLE IN THE DIALOGUE.

7. ALL DELEGATIONS WHO SPOKE DURING ENSURING DISCUSSION AGREED WITH VAN LENNEP'S GENERAL APPROACH. SWEDISH DELEGATE DOUBTED THAT IT WOULD BE POSSIBLE TO REACH COORDINATED OECD VIEWS ON ALL ISSUES TO ARISE IN COMMISSIONS, BUT THOUGHT IT DESIRABLE FOR OECD COUNTRIES TO SEEK HARMONIZED APPROACH TO BASIC OBJECTIVES OF DIALOGUE, E.G., ALL SHOULD BE ABLE TO AGREE ON GOALS OF MAINTAINING NON-CONFRONTATIONAL ATMOSPHERE WHICH PREVAILED AT 7TH SPECIAL SESSION AND OF SEEKING TO MAKE CONCRETE PROGRESS ON ISSUES WHICH EMERGED THERE. UK PERMREP FELT COORDINATION OF OECD COUNTRIES' POSITIONS WAS DESIRABLE-- AND APPROPRIATE MACHINERY WAS ALREADY ESTABLISHED -- FOR WORK OF INDIVIDUAL COMMISSIONS BUT

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CAUTIONED AGAINST SEEKING AT THIS STAGE TO SET UP  
MACHINERY FOR OVERALL COORDINATION OF DIALOGUE. HE  
SUGGESTED A FLEXIBLE AND PRAGMATIC APPROACH TO OVERALL  
COORDINATION IN WHICH DECISIONS IN THIS AREA WOULD BE  
TAKEN ONLY WHEN NEEDED FOLLOWING LAUNCHING OF DIALOGUE.  
VAN LENNEP FULLY ENDORSED UK VIEW, NOTING THAT HE HAD  
CAREFULLY AVOIDED USE OF WORD "COORDINATION." HE ADDED,  
HOWEVER, THAT XCSS SHOULD DISCUSS NEED FOR BASIC UNDER-  
STANDING AND COHERENT APPROACH TO OVERALL PROCESS OF  
NORTH/SOUTH DISCUSSIONS.

8. WHILE NOTING THAT OECD-WIDE CONSULTATION ON ENERGY  
WAS PROBLEM THAT WOULD HAVE TO BE DEALT WITH IN SOME  
MANNER, FRENCH DEL AGREED WITH VAN LENNEP THAT APPROPRIATE  
MACHINERY IS IN PLACE IN OECD FOR DEALING WITH  
ALL ASPECTS OF DIALOGUE. HE AGREED THAT QUESTION OF  
OVERALL COORDINATION NEED NOT BE DEALT WITH AT THIS  
STAGE, BUT ASSERTED THAT MEMBER GOVERNMENTS WOULD  
UNDoubtedly DESIRE TO HARMONIZE OVERALL STRATEGY AT  
SOME POINT.

9. GERMAN DEL ASKED WHY VAN LENNEP HAD NOT PROJECTED  
ANY ROLE FOR COUNCIL IN BACKSTOPPING DIALOGUE AND  
THOUGHT IT MIGHT BE DESIRABLE FOR COUNCIL TO MEET AT

MINISTERIAL -- OR AT LEAST DEPUTY MINISTERIAL -- LEVEL  
AS NEED FOR POLITICAL DECISIONS ARISES DURING COURSE OF  
DIALOGUE.

10. AMBASSADOR TURNER AGREED WITH VAN LENNEP'S ASSESS-  
MENT OF ORGANIZATIONAL NEEDS AND STATED THAT WE SHOULD  
PROCEED ON A PRAGMATIC BASIS, NOT SEEKING TO ESTABLISH  
SPECIFIC MECHANISMS FOR OVERALL COORDINATION UNTIL  
NEEDS ARE CLEARLY DEFINED. HE ACCEPTED HEADS OF DEL  
ROLE IN INFORMATIONAL EXCHANGE. HE EMPHASIZED IMPOR-  
TANCE OF UPCOMING XCSS AND, REFERRING TO GERMAN STATE-  
MENT, SAID OUR VIEW WHILE NOT FORECLOSING POSSIBLE  
MINISTERIAL MEETING IF NEED ARISES WAS THAT XCSS SHOULD  
PLAY ROLE GERMAN DEL APPARENTLY ENVISAGED FOR COUNCIL AT  
DEPUTY MINISTERIAL LEVEL. FOR XCSS TO PLAY THIS ROLE,  
HOWEVER, IT WOULD REQUIRE HIGHEST POSSIBLE REP-  
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RESENTATION FROM ALL COUNTRIES AND CAREFUL PREPARATION.  
HE POINTED TO HIGH LEVEL OF US REPRESENTATION AT XCSS.  
FRENCH DEL ALSO STRESSED IMPORTANCE OF XCSS IN THIS  
REGARD, NOTING THAT FRANCE IS TRADITIONALLY REPRESENTED  
AT DEPUTY MINISTERIAL LEVEL AT XCSS. WHILE NOT EXPLIC-  
ITLY RULING OUT COUNCIL ROLE IN DIALOGUE, IF NEED FOR  
FORMAL OECD DECISIONS (AS OPPOSED TO DISCUSSIONS AMONG  
OECD MEMBERS) SHOULD ARISE, VAN LENNEP STRONGLY ENDORSED  
VIEW THAT SCSS IS APPROPRIATE BODY FOR HIGH-LEVEL  
DISCUSSIONS OF DIALOGUE.

11. IN RESPONSE TO QUESTIN FROM SWEDISH DEL, VAN  
LENNEP SAID HE THOUGHT TEMPORARY WORKING PARTY OF EPC  
SHOULD CONTINUE IN EXISTENCE AND SERVE AS BACKSTOPPING  
BODY FOR FINANCIAL MATTERS. FOLLOWING REFERENCE TO  
COMMISSION SITE BY FRENCH DEL, VAN LENNEP EXPRESSED  
STRONG HOPE THAT COMMISSIONS WOULD MEET IN PARIS, SINCE  
THIS WOULD FACILITATE POSSIBLE OECD SECRETARIAT ROLE  
AND EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION AND CONSULTATION AMONG OECD  
MEMBERS.  
TURNER

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## Message Attributes

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